

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 8, 10-16, 18 and 19 remain pending in this application. Claims 1-7, 9 and 17 were previously cancelled. Claims 8, 10-16, 18 and 19 were previously presented.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 8, 10-16, and 18-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Laiho et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0153369, hereinafter referred to as “Laiho”), in view of Brassil (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0107940).

It is respectfully asserted that neither Laiho nor Brassil, alone or in combination, disclose:

“a device that computes an adjusted time stamp based on the embedded timestamp and a precision local clock and incorporates the adjusted timestamp into the at least a portion of the plurality of packets containing the embedded timestamp after converting the at least a portion of the packets into Internet Protocol packets and prior to transmitting the at least a portion of the plurality of packets to the network,”

as recited in independent claim 8.

In Laiho, a system “that allows mobile terminals to periodically remove power from at least some components is disclosed. The mobile terminal receives bursts of content. Some of the bursts of content include relative time information identifying the transmission time of a subsequent burst of content. The mobile terminal may remove power from a receiving module during times when the mobile terminal is not scheduled to receive content bursts.” (Laiho Abstract)

Laiho is directed at the issue of power management. By informing a receiving device that a next burst of data will not occur for a specified period of time, the receiving device may enter a power saving mode during for the specified time interval. (See Figure 5, elements 504-508). Laiho does not address, and would not appear to be useful for, the problem of clock jitter introduced by the conversion of a data signal into IP packets, which is addressed by the present invention.

First, the “relative time period” encoded in the packets of Laiho is the time “between the transmission of the first and second bursts.” (Laiho, [0027]) The length of the time interval between bursts does not serve as a timestamp for either of the bursts.

Second, Laiho teaches away from synchronization altogether, stating:

“However, because timing information is preferably relative rather than absolute, it is not necessary to synchronize the head-end and the mobile terminal to a common time source. The head-end and the mobile terminal may have independent time sources.” (Laiho, [0021])

and:

“As a result, it is not necessary for time source 216 and time source 228 to be synchronized. It is sufficient that each time source has a predetermined accuracy.” (Laiho, [0024])

Accordingly, Laiho makes no mention of adjusting timestamps or incorporating them into IP packets. The portions of Laiho cited with respect to timestamp adjustment disclose extracting time information, not timestamp adjustment. (Laiho, [0021] and [0024]).

Thus, Laiho fails to disclose “a device that computes an adjusted time stamp based on the embedded timestamp and a precision local clock and incorporates the adjusted timestamp into the at least a portion of the plurality of packets containing the embedded timestamp after converting the at least a portion of the packets into Internet Protocol packets and prior to transmitting the at least a portion of the plurality of packets to the network,” as described in claim 8.

Brassil teaches a method and system “for delivering program timing, structure, and identity information in media streams. Cues are utilized to indicate an event (e.g., a start or stop time of a program or program segment) whose precise timing is important to receivers. A server-side cue handling mechanism is provided for selectively generating cues based on configuration information and detected events. A client-side cue handling mechanism is provided for detecting cues and providing the cues to applications that can utilize the cues to perform a useful function or task.” (Brassil Abstract)

Brassil does not disclose, nor does the Office Action assert that Brassil discloses, incorporating adjusted timestamps into packets. Thus, Brassil, like Laiho, fails to disclose “a device that computes an adjusted time stamp based on the embedded timestamp and a precision local clock and incorporates the adjusted timestamp into the at least a portion of

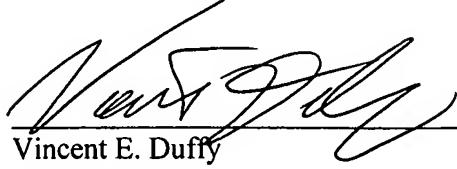
the plurality of packets containing the embedded timestamp after converting the at least a portion of the packets into Internet Protocol packets and prior to transmitting the at least a portion of the plurality of packets to the network,” as recited in independent claim 8.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted there is no 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure provided by Laiho or Brassil, alone or in combination, which makes the present invention as claimed by independent claim 8 unpatentable under 35 USC 103. It is further submitted that independent claim 16 is allowable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 8 is allowable. Since dependent claims 10-15 and 18-19 are dependent from allowable independent claims 8 and 16, it is submitted that they too are allowable for at least the same reasons that their respective independent claims are allowable. Thus, it is further submitted that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Having fully addressed the Examiner’s rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant’s representative at (818) 480-5319, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,
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I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date: July 12, 2010 